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Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Confirmation No. 7799
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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICIAL ACTION

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Official Action mailed August 11, 2005 in the above-captioned application, Applicants submit the following response. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 20-38 are allowable. As to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's interpretation of that claim and the conclusion that Claim 1 is not patentably distinct from U.S. Patent No. 6,718,237. Nonetheless, to expedite allowance of the pending claims, Applicants are following the Examiner's suggestion, and request that the attached Terminal Disclaimer be entered. Also, submitted herewith is a Power of Attorney granting the undersigned and all attorneys associated with Customer Number 20786 full power to prosecute this application.

Robert T. Neufeld, Reg. No. 48,394

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 26, 2005.

This response, Power of Attorney, and the disclaimer are submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action. The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Such action is hereby courteously solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone conference or that there are any formalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, please contact the undersigned at (404) 572-3509.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert T. Neufeld

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